



Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

March 2009

Published monthly by
Plymouth UCC
2010 Moholt Drive
Eau Claire WI 54703
Phone: 715-835-5475
Web: pcucc.com

Ministers: All the people

Pastor: Rev. David Huber
david@pcucc.com

Director of Music Ministry:
Cyndi Bradbury

Church Secretary/Editor:
Mimi Pederson
mimi@pcucc.com

*This month's
newsletter is sponsored
by Larry & Barb Kleist*



Birthdays.	Page 3
Calendar.	Page 7
Council Minutes.	Page 5
Financial Update.	Page 5
Memorials.	Page 2
Pastor's Pen.	Page 4
Worship Notes.	Page 2



Seven Deadly Sins in Lent

The Wednesday night soup and worship gatherings during Lent will focus on the Seven Deadly Sins. Each Wednesday at 6:00 P.M. we will enjoy a supper of soup and bread and then explore one of the deadly sins led by a member of the congregation. (Since we have just five nights, we are leaving out lust and sloth.) Here is the schedule:

- March 4 A discussion of **pride** led by Aurora Bradbury-Schoening
- March 11 A discussion of **greed** led by Gene Peissig
- March 18 A discussion of **envy** led by Cyndi Bradbury
- March 25 A discussion of **gluttony** led by Pastor David
- April 1 A discussion of **wrath** led by George Stecher

Become a member of Plymouth!

If you would like to join Plymouth, or just have some questions, you are invited to join us for an "Inquirer's Session" after worship on Sunday, March 22 to learn about Plymouth, ask your questions, and get to know one another. Please contact Pastor David if you are interested or have any questions. Plymouth is eager to welcome those who wish to share their faith on our congregation's journey.

The cost of a first-class stamp is going up ... again!

Yes, the cost of a piece of first-class mail is going up to 44 cents in May 2009. That means extra cost for Plymouth to mail out the newsletter. If you have access to the internet, please consider receiving this newsletter via email. It will save paper, printing costs and postage. Contact Mimi at mimi@pcucc.com to be put on the electronic mailing list, *otherwise, you will continue to receive a paper copy of the newsletter.*

Getting ready for church

March Worship Notes

10:30 a.m. Worship

Communion the first Sunday of the month

March 1

*First Sunday in Lent,
St. Francis Food Pantry offering*
Genesis 9:8–17, Psalm 25:1–10,
1 Peter 3:18–22, Mark 1:9–15

March 8

*Second Sunday in Lent,
Daylight Savings begins*
Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16, Psalm 22:23–31,
Romans 4:13–25, Mark 8:31–38 or
Mark 9:2–9

March 15

Third Sunday in Lent
Exodus 20:1–17, Psalm 19,
1 Corinthians 1:18–25, John 2:13–22

March 22

*Fourth Sunday in Lent
One Great Hour of Sharing offering*
Numbers 21:4–9, Psalm 107:1–3, 17–22,
Ephesians 2:1–10, John 3:14–21

March 29

Fifth Sunday in Lent
Jeremiah 31:31–34, Psalm 51:1–12 or Psalm
119:9–16, Hebrews 5:5–10, John 12:20–33

In March, we are praying for these individuals/families: Catherine Lee, Esther Lee, Bill & Julie Leipnitz, Steve & Ann Leipnitz, Tom & Robin Leuck, Jerry & Joanne Lowry, Phil (April) Martell

Youth News

Our Youth have been challenged with two questions: Why do I like Plymouth? and What is my favorite Bible verse? Read what they have written on the Youth bulletin board in the Christian Education area. You may be surprised!

Memorials

! Gifts to the **Memorial Fund:**
In memory of Bill McLeod: Paul & Jodea Green; *In memory of Lenore Tubbs on her birthday:* Bob & Mary Fiene

Dear Women of Plymouth,
Thank you for the generous scholarship. Your kindness and support mean so much to me. I appreciate you beyond words.

Thanks, Cyndi

Food for Thought

St. Francis Food Pantry can still use money and basic food items, grocery bags (plastic and paper), motel-size soaps, lotions, shampoos and body wash, and jars with lids (pint or quart size—washed and cleaned of course). We will continue to take our special offering for them on the first Sunday of the month.

The theme for the pot luck on March 1 will be “Your Mother’s Favorite Recipe.” Kay Stecher will present her “Walking through History” program.

On April 5, the potluck theme will be “Get Rid of Winter!” We will have a cookout. Brats and burgers will be provided. Bring picnic food and let’s forget winter!

March Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 2 Doug Salter | 10 Jeremy Green |
| 3 Stacy Kleist | Sarah Wolfe |
| 4 Claire Cramblit | 11 Robin Leuck |
| 5 Judy Insteness | Andrew Salter |
| Esther Lee | 19 Calvin Carter |
| Jane Retallick | 20 Loraine Berg |
| Kay Stecher 24 | Peter Holmen |
| 6 Erma Phephles | 28 Gene Peissig |
| 8 Aurora Bradbury- | 29 Dorothy |
| Schoening | Kruschke |
| Steven Gilbertson | 31 Gladys Green |
| Joyce Holmen | |
| Dakota Stygar | |

Empty Bowls Benefit

This benefit for Feed My People Food Bank will take place Thursday, March 12 from 11:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1314 E Lexington Blvd. The meal includes choice of four soups, delicious breads, beverage and choice of dessert. The price for the meal and a hand-made pottery bowl is \$18; the meal alone is \$8. Children 10 and under may eat for free. Tickets are available from Barb Kleist. Please make checks payable to Feed My People.



Paper towels, Soft Scrub, SOS pads, dish soap, "Chore Boy" scouring pads and dish cloths

Missing something??

Are you missing a cake pan or some other item from your kitchen?? If so, check the church kitchen—it may be there. There is a large electric roaster, and we have no idea to whom it belongs. Items which are not claimed will go in the thrift sale.

Order Easter flowers to decorate the sanctuary and then take them home and plant them in your own yard after Easter. The flowers may be placed in memory or in honor of a loved one. Please fill out the information below and return it with your payment to the church office by **March 30**. Checks should be made out to Plymouth United Church of Christ.

Your name(s): _____

In memory/honor of (Please circle one) _____

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| _____ Lily plants at \$8.75 each | \$ _____ |
| _____ Daffodils at \$8.75 each | \$ _____ |
| _____ Tulips at \$8.75 each | \$ _____ |
| _____ Hyacinths at \$8.75 each | \$ _____ |
| TOTAL | \$ _____ |



Pastor's Pen



Friends of Plymouth,

We are entering Lent as this newsletter comes out. The Worship Commission has been busy planning our Wednesday night soup/worship and our Sunday services. For the Wednesday night gatherings, we are exploring the Seven Deadly Sins (lust, gluttony, greed, sloth, wrath, envy, pride). These are not found in the Bible as a list, but were created by Pope Gregory in the 6th century. The Italian poet Dante in the 13th century vividly expounded upon the seven deadly sins in the “Inferno” section of his “Divine Comedy,” an epic poem that I recommend highly to all of you. It tells the story of Dante’s (obviously fictitious) three-day journey through Hell, Purgatory, and Heaven, beginning on Good

Friday and ending on Easter morning. It’s good reading for Lent. But beyond recommending a book, thinking about these seven deadly sins has me also thinking about their opposites—the seven cardinal virtues (in order with the list above: chastity, temperance, charity, diligence, patience, kindness, humility). Which gives me a thought: being a Christian isn’t so much about not sinning, but is about being actively virtuous. What does this mean? I leave it to you to consider as you travel through Lent this year.

I pray that you find your Lenten journey to be meaningful, enriching, and a time of growth in faith and your relationship with God.

Blessings,

Handwritten signature of Pastor David.

Memo from the Moderator

Thank you to Plymouth UCC Church. It is a pleasure to serve my congregation as the Moderator this year and work with the many dedicated individuals of the Plymouth family.

The first Executive Council meeting of the new year took place on Sunday, February 8. Thank you to all the members who attended and discussed the various issues of our church. Lots of creative ideas were flowing at the meeting!

There are some great opportunities for members of our congregation to represent Plymouth in the near future. The Northwest Association meeting will be held on Sunday, April 26, in Neillsville, WI. Our church will need one person to attend this meeting as a representative. Also, the Wisconsin Conference Annual Meeting will be held

in Green Lake, WI, on June 12–14. Cyndi Bradbury has volunteered to attend this conference, but we will need one other delegate to go along. If you are willing to serve as a representative of our church for either of these meetings, please let Pastor David, me, or anyone on the council know. As you are aware, our church is presently without a Moderator-elect. Executive Council would prefer to fill this position as soon as possible. Therefore, if anyone in our congregation is willing to serve as Moderator-elect this year and move up to Moderator the following year, please contact a council member. If you are unsure of the responsibilities for these two positions, please feel free to call me, and I will be happy to share information with you.

Blessings to all!

Nancy Wendt

Executive Council Minutes

February 8, 2009

Members present: Jim Welk, Rob Jaenke, Larry Kleist, Barb Kleist, Char Kozlowski, Nancy Wendt, Kay Stecher, Louise Partlow, Aurora Bradbury-Schoening and Pastor David.

Nancy called the meeting to order and opened with a prayer. The January Council minutes were reviewed and approved.

Financial Reports:

As of January 31, 2009

Year to Date Income	\$5,493.10
Year to Date Expenses	\$7,253.86
Ahead (Behind)	\$1,760.76
Building Fund Balance	\$29,827.42
Memorial Fund Balance	\$4,331.45

Financial Secretary Report/ Treasurer:

Income this month was \$5493.10 expenses were \$7253.86 leaving us with a January loss of \$1760.76 and a check book balance of -\$601.81. The quarterly payment for health insurance and retirement were paid, along with the property insurance.

Memorial Fund Report:

The balance for the end of the month is \$4331.45. There was \$570 deposit to the fund from Bill McLeod's funeral.

Building Fund Report:

At the end of January the balance is \$29827.42. Both E.C. Insulation and Wiersgalla Plumbing were paid in January. Nancy wondered if it was time to pay out the \$5000 to the General Fund for this year. Larry moved we transfer \$5000 from the Building Fund to the General Fund for this year's transfer of funds. Jim seconded, motion approved. Nancy also reminded us that the congregation has given the Council the authority to use up to \$3000 per year for building maintenance or repairs. The Wiersgalla bill of \$478.44 was part of that \$3000 for this year.

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

Christian Education Commission:

The 2nd Annual February Film Festival is up and running. The information for this year's Moon Beach Camps is just starting to come out. They will review and evaluate the confirmation process at their February meeting. Confirmation this year will be May 17. They will invite all those who have been confirmed at Plymouth to return that Sunday for a reunion. Refreshments will be served after the service.

Stewardship Commission:

Ash Wednesday they will sponsor the Baked Potato Supper again. The net profits were turned over to the General Fund. The pledge totals this year were around \$57,000, which is about \$3-4000 less than last year. They are working on a new Memorial List. Items on it so far are: Front Banners for the sanctuary, new flooring for the nursery, lighting upgrade, a historical items display case, an on demand water heater, the General Fund, and a quilt padding cover for the sanctuary piano.

Worship Commission:

The Seven Deadly Sins will be the theme for Lenten services on Wednesday evenings. A soup supper will be served prior to those services at 6 P.M. There will be no ecumenical Wednesday noon services this year.

Service Commission:

Pastor David has been giving the shut-ins communion this past month. Eileen Polden is now at the Severson Home. The Sunday school kids will be sending valentines to the shut-ins.

Building and Grounds:

Ron will be on vacation Feb 13-17 and will need someone to cover for him while he is gone. Jim volunteered to help out. The Wendt family has donated the new heat tapes this year. Baltz Construction has been contacted about the water problem we are having in the foyer between the two buildings.



Minutes continued on page 6 ...

*Council Minutes
continued ...*

Women of Plymouth:

Char reported that they will have a Cabin Fever Breakout on Saturday, February 21. They have set the date for the Bazaar next fall as November 14. They were also wondering why the Moderator does not have a key for the church. Nancy said she will see if there is a need for one, and let us know.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor David made 33 visits in January. Ash Wednesday is February 25. The supper will be at 5:30 followed by the worship service at 7 P.M. Kathryn Hamilton, Aurora and Pastor David attended the training session for the Listening Sessions. More information will be coming out in the next few months. The construction of the chapel at the Pilgrim Center is underway and should be completed by May. The conference has increased the paid hours for the Conference Youth Coordinator from 10 to 20 hours a week. He has heard that the camp fees will probably be up about 7.5 % this year. We have also been contacted by the company who installed our phones. They are no longer being serviced. If something goes wrong with the phone system we will have to purchase a new one.

Mission Committee:

The potluck on March 1 will be "Your Mother's Favorite Dish." Kay's "Walking through History" presentation will be after the pot luck. The committee will meet in March to decide on more Community Table dates. They will also be starting to display a quilt each month from the Plymouth Quilters on a wall in Fellowship Hall.

Banners:

Kay will be getting the committee together. She would like to contact a local artist so that we could have something unique.

NWA Meeting:

The Association meeting is Sunday, April 26 in Neillsville and we need a delegate to go. Barb can not go this year, so someone else will need to volunteer.

WI Conference Meeting:

The Annual Meeting is June 12-14 in Green Lake and we need two representatives. Cyndi volunteered as one representative.

"Leadership in the Church..." Meeting:

There is a workshop on Feb 21 in Bloomer. Since this is our Cabin Fever Breakout, no one will be attending.

Fundraising Idea:

Nancy wondered if the Quilters would be willing to sell one quilt a month on E-bay with the profit being given to the General Fund. Char will talk to the quilters.

Moderator Elect:

We still need a moderator elect for this year or next year we will be without a Moderator.

New Members:

We have had interest from several people to join the church. It was decided to have a meeting for interested people March 22 after worship and then accept the new members on Palm Sunday, April 5.

Advertising:

It was mentioned that Pastor David's name is not mentioned in our weekly religious page advertisement. Pastor David will have Mimi get that changed.

Pastor David closed with a prayer. Meeting adjourned 12:40 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted, Barb Kleist

Be a sponsor!

Sponsor an issue of the newsletter, a weekly bulletin, or the illumination of the cross on the front of our building in memory or in honor of someone or in honor of a special event, or even just because! Bulletin and newsletter sponsors will be recognized in the issue they sponsor. Cross sponsors will be listed in all publications for the month of sponsorship. Support a bulletin for \$15, a newsletter for \$50, or illuminate the cross for \$50. Sign-up sheets are on the table outside the sanctuary.